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ATHLETICS AT IOWA

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Monograph



The Men's Gymnasium. Adjoining the building on the right are the tennis courts.

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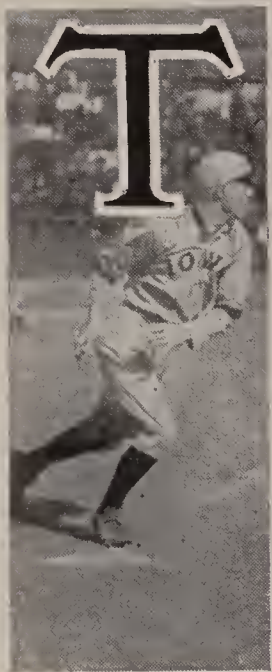


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ATHLETICS AT IOWA



THE high school boy who is interested in athletics and who has been an active and able participant in different branches of sport during his high school days takes an unusual interest in the athletics of the university in which he will seek his higher education upon completing his preparatory work. Probably he expects to "go in for" athletics in the university, and he cherishes an ambition to win a place on the 'Varsity football team, the basketball five, the baseball nine, or to set a record on the cinder path. He is interested in the university's athletic coaching staff as well as in the instructional staff; he wants to know something of the institution's athletic record as well as its academic standing.

The "Big Ten"

The University of Iowa is a member of the Western Intercollegiate Conference, familiarly known in athletic circles as the "Big Ten." In the Conference Iowa is associated with Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Chicago, Purdue, Ohio, Northwestern, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Iowa takes great pride in the fact that during the early, stormy days of Conference history the institution had a prominent part in shaping the policies that have made it possible for the "Big Ten" to become a power in athletic circles and the best functioning organization of its kind in the United States.

Athletic Board

As in other universities of the "Big Ten," a Board in Control of Athletics at Iowa directs athletic life. This Board is made up of six faculty members appointed by the President of the University, an alumni member elected by the alumni of the university, the director of athletics *ex officio*, and the four

students who are captains of the football, basketball, baseball, and track teams. Student members have an equal vote with the others in determining policies.

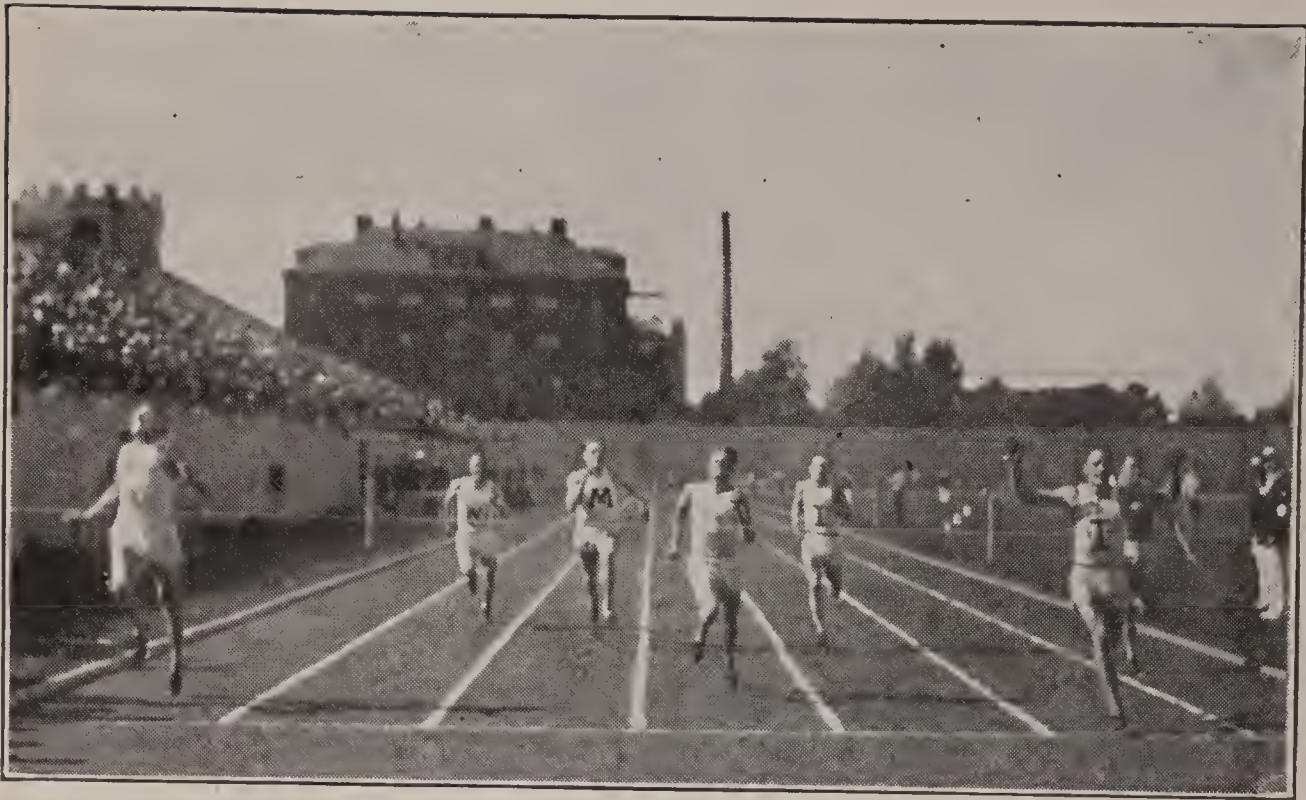
Eligibility Rules

A student of the University who participates in athletics is first of all required to make good grades in his studies. At Iowa athletics are considered a means to an end, and not an end in themselves. Organized athletics and gymnasium work are needed to keep the student in good physical condition and to create a part of the invisible but essential spirit that makes a university great.

Freshmen are not permitted to compete on 'Varsity teams. It is first of all required that they learn how to study and that they acclimate themselves to university atmosphere. The University is a place for work, for serious effort on the part of the student to equip himself better for later life. The University, in attempting to build up athletic prestige, has kept uppermost in importance the necessity for good scholarship.

The man who is to make good in scholarship and athletics at the University is the man who in his own heart desires to come to Iowa. The University wants most the student who most wants to come, and in the degree in which a student is eager to succeed in athletics and in the classroom, in precisely that same degree can he achieve the things which he sets out to do. The student who enrolls at Iowa for the purpose of making an athletic team injures both the university and himself. Every year a few high school athletes of ability register in the University and expect, apparently, to be retained as students or permitted to play on Iowa teams regardless of their standing in the classroom. They disappear. Some return home; some remain, but their work is of such character that they are never eligible for athletics.

The ruling which prohibits freshmen at Iowa from playing on 'Varsity athletic teams is a ruling of the "Big Ten" in effect at every one of the ten universities composing the conference. Although only a Conference ruling, the same regulation obtains in any college or university of good standing in the United States. A student who is not a freshman is likewise prohibited from participating in athletics until he has received credit for a year's work done at this institution. Thus a student might at-



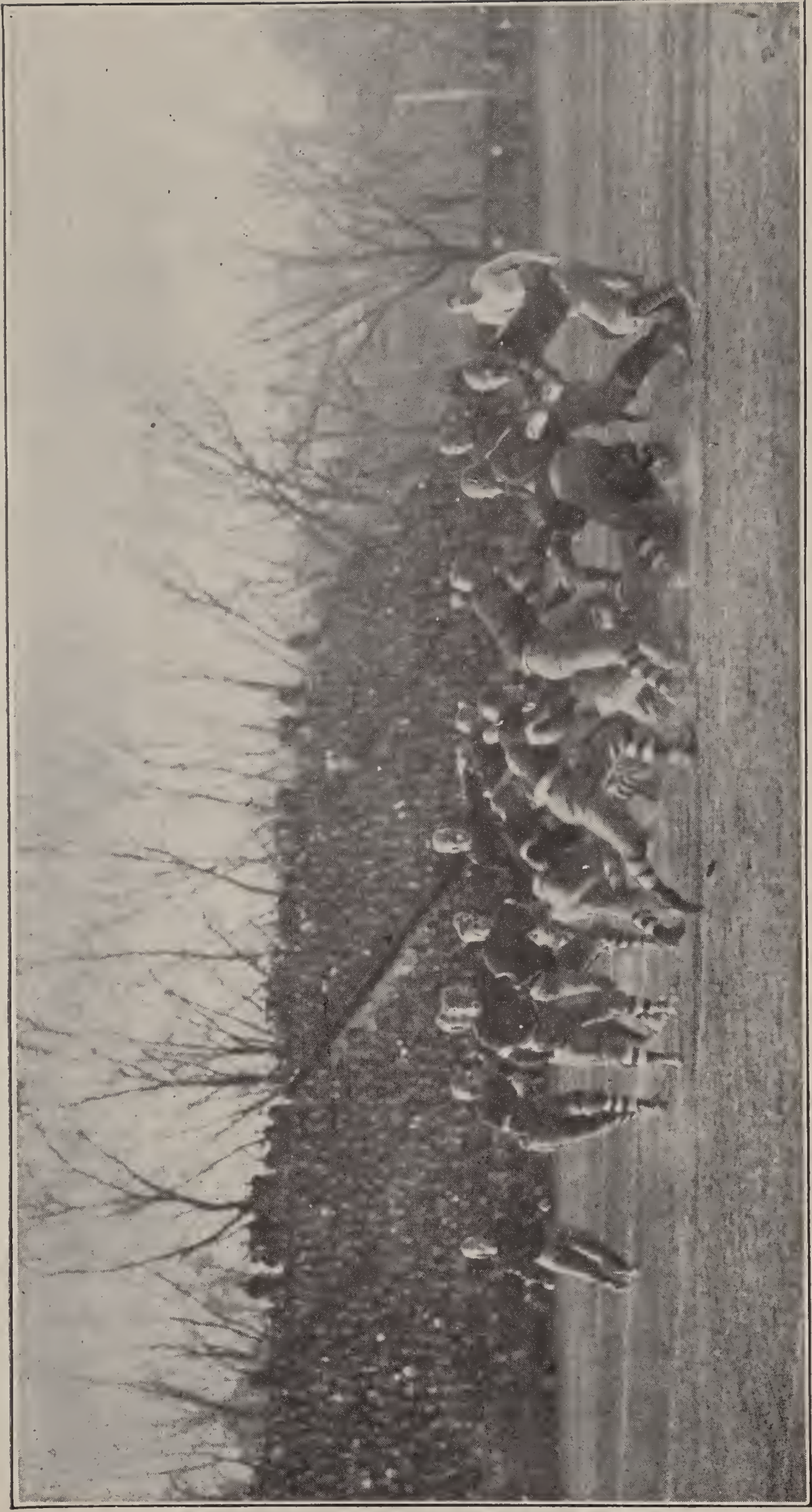
Wilson of Iowa winning first place in the 220-yard dash at the "Big Ten" track and field meet at Chicago, June, 1921.

tend Knox college for two years and participate in athletics at Knox as a sophomore. If he then comes to Iowa to complete his course he must attend at the University a year before he can be a member of a 'Varsity athletic team. Such a rule has a tendency to keep away men who might come to the University solely to play football or baseball.

Having become eligible for athletics, the student has three years of competition remaining. The University places no further restrictions except in the College of Medicine, the faculty of which rules that no student may participate in two consecutive major sports in any year.

The first-year athlete, however, is not without his chance to shine. To make the freshman team in any sport is considered just as truly an honor as for an older player to make the 'Varsity. Freshman teams compete with the 'Varsity in practice games, giving both teams valuable experience. The freshman athlete also receives official recognition as well as honor. For winning a place on a first year team he is awarded a numeral and a jersey sweater, the numeral being the year of his class. Freshmen playing during the year 1921-1922 will be awarded the numeral "1925," for they belong to the university class which will graduate in 1925.

Although freshmen have their own teams under capable coaches in all sports, they have no opportunity to concentrate on athletics. They do not give the time to practice that is re-



A Homecoming football game. Iowa carries the ball off tackle.



Members of the University's physical training and coaching staff. Left to right: Howard H. Jones, director of athletics and head football coach; James N. Ashmore, basketball and baseball coach; George T. Bresnahan, track and cross-country coach; Ernest G. Schroeder director of physical education for men; Walter R. Fiesler, medical supervisor; Leon H. Brigham, assistant director of athletics; Harold E. Briceland, instructor in physical education; and Frank E. Wheeler, instructor in physical education.

quired of 'Varsity men, and they do not make trips away from the campus to play games, trips that cause them to be absent from classroom work.

The Coaches

Howard H. Jones, three years an end on the Yale eleven and for two years head coach at Yale, accepted five years ago a five year contract to become head coach and director of athletics at the University. He has recently renewed his contract with Iowa and is expected to remain for many years to come. Every high school athlete is familiar with the record of recent years.

Every year Iowa plays five of the seven games on her football schedule with conference teams, and this year a game with Notre Dame, one of the strongest football schools in the west, has also been arranged. For 1922 Yale has promised to meet Iowa, and freshmen who enter the University this year will have an opportunity of winning a place on the squad that will make the trip to New Haven.

An athlete of ability wants to know that he is being coached by a man who will develop the best that is in him. Mr. Jones is that sort of coach, a leader who will give every man a square deal and will encourage every player in his care to do his best. He has impressed on Iowa teams the spirit of fair play, good sportsmanship, and clean athletics.

In 1919 Iowa was fortunate in being able to secure the ser-

vices of James N. Ashmore as basketball and baseball coach. Ashmore was a player on the football, basketball and baseball teams at Illinois before he took his degree in 1903, and has since devoted his time to coaching. He was at Millikin College for several years and made a fine record in winning football, basketball, and baseball championships. In addition he has coached at Western Maryland College and at the University of Colorado. At Colorado he coached three seasons of baseball, losing the first three games the first season and never another. In basketball he finished third in the Rocky Mountain Conference the first year, tied for first place the second season, and won the championship the third year. Mr. Ashmore came to Iowa at the end of his service as athletic director in the army and has turned out basketball and baseball teams of superior ability. Last winter Iowa made its best record in history in the "Big Ten" basketball race. A year ago the Iowa baseball team finished third in the conference.

George T. Bresnahan has completed his first season as track coach at the University, and his success has won for him the full confidence and support of every student and alumnus. Seven "I" men from the year before were ineligible for the track team of 1921 but the coach made point-winners out of men who had been mediocre performers. Members of the track team broke eight Iowa records in the 100 yard dash, 220 yard dash, high hurdles, low hurdles, half mile relay, high jump, mile run, and two mile run. Iowa won every dual meet in which the team competed, captured the state meet by a wide margin, was fifth in the "Big Ten" events, and in the National meet at Chicago won third place.

Iowa's track coach came from Wisconsin, where he was a star cross-country and half-mile runner. After graduating in 1913 he took up coaching work at Wisconsin and was in charge of the cross country squad and assistant track coach. His cross-country squad won the championship one year and took second another. In 1920 the Wisconsin track team won every dual meet in which it competed and placed third in the Conference. Mr. Bresnahan attended the Olympic games in 1920 to make a study of performances and coaching methods.

Ernest G. Schroeder is director of physical education for men. He has been in charge of this work since 1907. At eighteen years of age Mr. Schroeder became an assistant in the Dayton, Ohio, Y. M. C. A. and later was employed as physical director



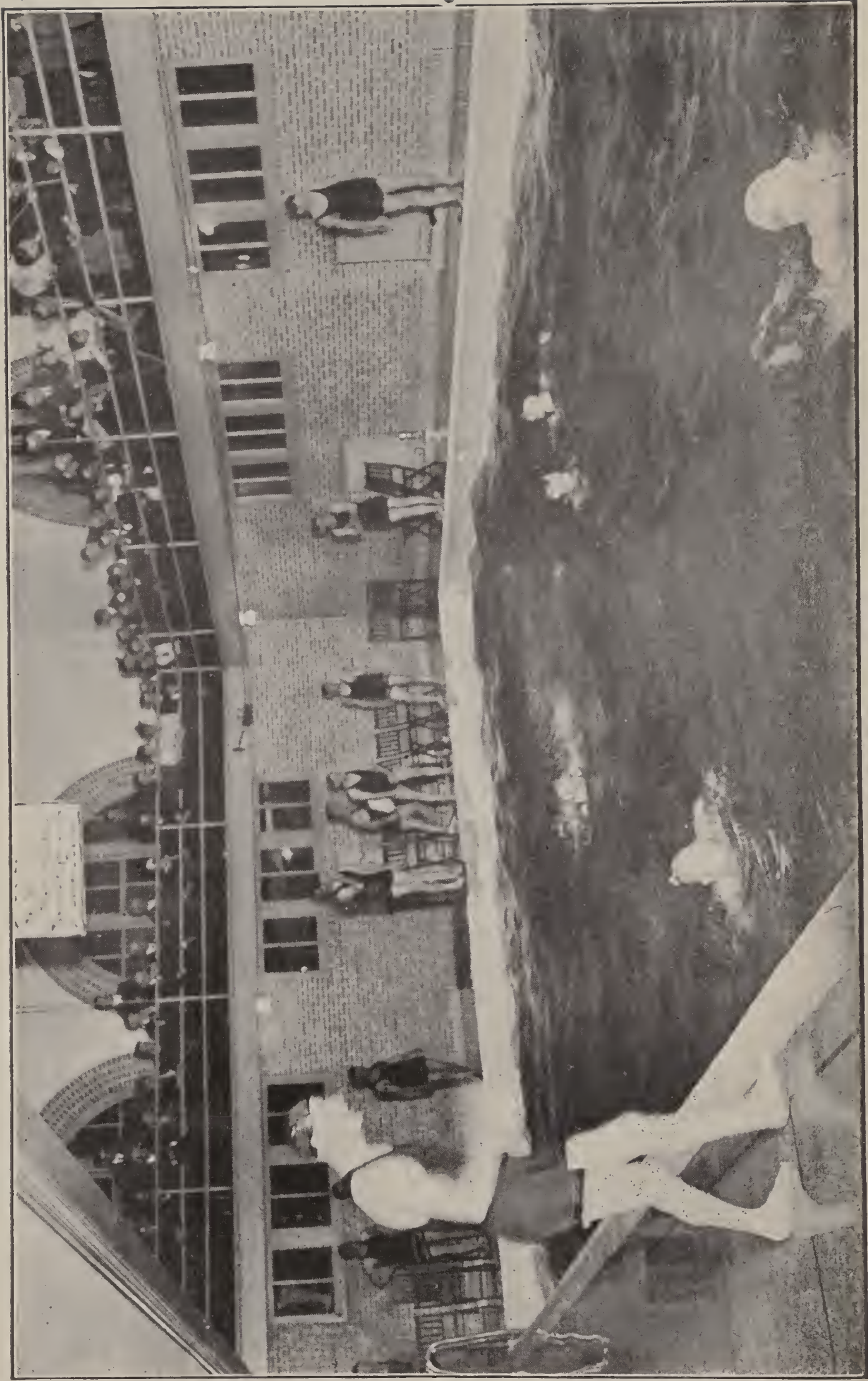
Physical education is required of freshman and sophomore students in the University. Here is a class in heavy apparatus.

in the Marshalltown, Iowa, "Y." For a year he was in charge of athletics at Simpson College, and then after another year at Marshalltown, was induced to come to the University. His practical experience has been supplemented by special training at Silver Bay, Lake Geneva, and Princeton University. His enthusiasm for physical education has been contagious in both student body and faculty of the University, and the physical training department has grown and improved rapidly under his charge.

Walter R. Fiesler, a graduate of the College of Medicine, with practical experience as participant and coach in football, basketball, and track, is medical supervisor in charge of all men doing athletic work. Dr. Fiesler is especially charged with keeping men in such physical condition as to minimize injuries, but he gives treatments when injuries occur. In addition he directs the training of all men who are out for places on athletic teams, giving attention and care not only to members of teams, but to all who participate in athletics.

Gymnasium and Field

Iowa athletes have the best equipment, superior buildings and grounds set aside for their use, and careful attention from their coaches. Athletes have their headquarters in the Men's Gymnasium, which is modern in every way. A swimming pool is available for use the year 'round. The gym is situated at the



Swimming pool in the Men's Gymnasium. Here are held dual swimming meets. The pool is open the year 'round



Members of the 1921 track squad were the holders of eight University records. Left to right: back row—Aubrey Devine, joint holder of the record in pole vault; Crawford, high hurdles; Belding, set new low hurdle record, later broken by Brookins; Slater, discus and shot put; McIntire, mile run; Hoffman, high jump; front row—Brookins, present holder of low hurdle record; Seiling, Hill, Friedlander, Wilson, half mile relay; Wilson, 100-yard dash and 220-yard dash; Peterman, two-mile run.

main entrance to Iowa Field, two blocks from Old Capitol, the center of the University, and only four blocks from the Quadrangle, dormitory for men.

Iowa Field, on which all outdoor contests are held, has a regulation football gridiron with permanent concrete bleachers on either side. A quarter mile cinder path for track work surrounds the gridiron. To the north is the baseball diamond, and between the two a large level area for practice work in any sport.

This summer has seen the construction of a new concrete entrance to the field. In addition, the permanent concrete fence around the enclosure has been further extended and four new sections of concrete bleachers built. The football gridiron is in splendid condition, since it is carefully attended twelve months of the year. The running track was improved last spring under the direction of Coach Bresnahan. A year ago the baseball diamond was rebuilt with a sodded infield and gravel paths. It is perfectly graded and drained.

The Future for Coaches of Athletics

Men who make good in athletics find an attractive future in the physical education and coaching field when they have completed their university work. In addition to the experience to be gained by playing on athletic teams at the University, a



Coach Jones shows how it should be done. Says he: "Now then, what do I do? At the snap of the ball, why, I'm in there fighting—Let's see you do it."

course of instruction in coaching methods in all major sports is offered at Iowa during the Summer Session.

Athletics and physical education in Iowa high schools are constantly assuming a place of larger interest and greater importance. New high schools are adding an organized sports program to their activities every year. Consolidated schools are making athletics possible for a constantly increased number of boys and young men. The University of Iowa's basketball tournament for high school teams attracted seventy-four different schools and more than 700 players last March. Football, formerly confined to relatively few schools in Iowa, and these in larger cities, is likewise gaining in favor. Coaches are needed for these teams.

Instruction in physical training and athletic coaching frequently go hand in hand in high schools. It is predicted that compulsory physical training, with allied work in athletics, will be a fact in Iowa before long. Eighteen states now have compulsory physical education in the public schools, and fifteen more are considering the enactment of such legislation. A bill to make physical training compulsory in all grade and high schools in the state was introduced in the last General Assembly.

To meet the demand for coaches and directors of physical education the University offers a special course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. This includes instruction in physiology, anatomy, anthropometry, gymnastics of every kind, pedagogy in physical education, football, track, baseball, bas-



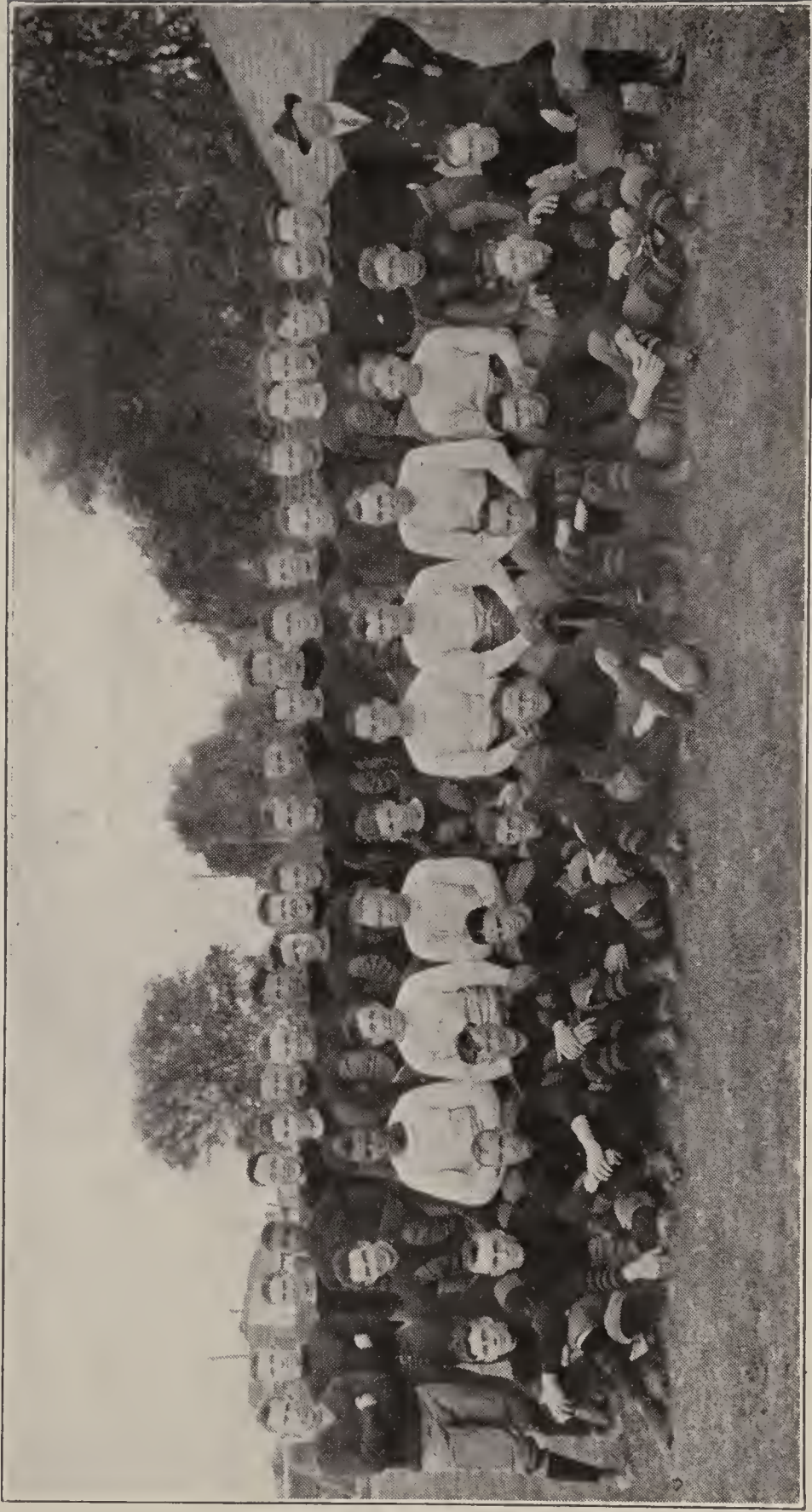
Over the hurdles at top speed. Crawford shows the length of his stride in clearing the high ones.

ketball, swimming, life-saving, wrestling, boxing, fencing, and other work of the type demanded of physical education teachers. Few men care to become professional performers, but the man who is interested in athletics and wants to remain actively in touch with sports can command a good salary as a coach.

Working One's Way

Those who seek to earn all or a part of their expenses while attending the University are given every encouragement. Scholarships are available to cover tuition charges. No athlete who considers entering the University of Iowa is offered "all his expenses" or virtually guaranteed a monthly sum of money as an inducement, although every effort is made to assist the worthy individual. Every student, athlete or otherwise, has access to the free service of an employment bureau conducted by the Dean of Men. It is easily possible for men to earn \$10 or \$12 a week toward their expenses by working outside of school hours. Many students earn all their expenses and still carry their university work successfully, although normally it is wiser for students to devote their full time to their studies. Those who work their way through must not be disappointed if it takes additional time.

Work which returns pay in board is most popular among men.



The 1920 'Varsity football squad at Iowa

This may be washing dishes, waiting on table, or similar jobs. During the past year university men have worked at board jobs, stenography, bookkeeping, file clerking, caring for furnaces, odd jobs about houses and yards, clerking in stores, painting houses, plumbing, working in garages, acting as janitors in university buildings and business houses, carrying mail, operating moving picture machines, playing in orchestras, singing in church choirs, acting as assistant pastors of Iowa City churches or country churches near Iowa City, part time teaching or tutoring, printing, cleaning and pressing, repairing watches, manufacturing, night clerking in hotels, vending milk, helping bakers, assisting in library, acting as salesmen and solicitors, barbering, serving as assistants to doctors, dentists, and lawyers and at other tasks almost too numerous to mention. Some men even take care of babies while father and mother go out evenings. They say it is good pay and gives a good quiet evening for study while baby sleeps.

University Standards

The University of Iowa recognizes and encourages a sports program as a necessary adjunct to university life. As a matter of policy, no state funds are expended in the interests of developing or maintaining athletics, but this does not result from lack of interest. All expenses of maintaining the department of athletics, including improvements on the athletic field, traveling expenses of teams, cost of equipment, salaries of coaches, employment of officials, and so on are covered by receipts from admission charges to see the games.

Iowa's athletic standing has been built on the slogan, "Iowa Fights." To those men who will play on Iowa teams for the first time this year, next year, and in seasons to come Iowa offers the heritage of a fighting record. Iowa is known for the way her teams play in the last quarter and the last half. The successful Iowa athlete must be all for Iowa. If he makes good in athletics and in his studies, his degree of success will reflect his enthusiasm for Iowa and his resolve to make his efforts count.



1921 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

- Oct. 1—Knox at Iowa City.
Oct. 8—Notre Dame at Iowa City.
Oct. 15—Illinois at Iowa City (Home-coming).
Oct. 22—Open.
Oct. 29—Purdue at Lafayette.
Nov. 5—Minnesota at Minneapolis.
Nov. 12—Indiana at Iowa City.
Nov. 19—Northwestern at Evanston.
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1922 BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

- Jan. 7—Wisconsin at Iowa.
Jan. 14—Iowa at Minnesota.
Jan. 21—Purdue at Iowa.
Jan. 28—Iowa at Purdue.
Jan. 30—Iowa at Indiana.
Feb. 11—Iowa at Chicago.
Feb. 13—Iowa at Wisconsin.
Feb. 18—Ohio at Iowa.
Feb. 23—Minnesota at Iowa.
Feb. 27—Michigan at Iowa.
Mar. 4—Iowa at Michigan.
Mar. 6—Iowa at Ohio.